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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/632,266	08/03/2000	Alain Del Vecchio	MGRN:376	1812

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EXAMINER

LAXTON, GARY L

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2838

DATE MAILED: 06/30/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Applicati n No.

09/632,266

Applicant(s)

DEL VECCHIO ET AL.

Examiner

Gary L. Laxton

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-- The MAILING DATE of this c mmunication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondenc address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 March 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 9 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1,3-8 and 10-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Restriction

1. Applicant is advised that the Restriction requirement mailed 2/26/03 is withdrawn.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 10, 12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over admitted prior art figure 1 in view of Oravetz et al.

Claims 1, 10, 12 and 14. Admitted prior art figure 1 discloses an electronic trip device comprising communication means (e.g. the electrical connection between the processor (5) and man-machine interface (8)); a processing unit (5) having inputs to receive electrical signals (figure 1) representative of electrical quantities (current) and an output (figure 1) to supply a tripping signal to a tripping relay (6); and a man-machine interface (8) connected to the processing unit (5) to supply setting parameters and to display information and tripping curves

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on a screen (9); main contacts (2) connected in series with power conductors (1); interface (9); circuit breaker comprising contacts (2), current sensors (4), relay (6) [figure 1 of admitted prior art].

However, the admitted prior art figure 1 does not disclose the means for displaying setting parameters in the man-machine interface for modifying the visual aspect of a least one portion of curve representative of a parameter whose setting is to be changed. Oravetz et al teaches changing the visual aspect of the curve in order to improve the integrity and reduce required time and cost of coordinating trip curves of protection devices (abstract; col. 6 lines 30-35.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the visual aspect of at least one portion of curve representative of a parameter whose setting is to be changed in order to facilitate rather precise tailoring of the breakers response characteristics to a particular current trip function.

5. Claims 3-8, 11, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over admitted prior art figure 1 and Oravetz et al and further in view of Alexander et al.

Admitted prior art figure 1 and Oravetz et al disclose the claimed invention as stated above in regards to claims 1 and 10 except for changing the background of an item of information; framing an item of information to be selected; highlighting information in a scrollable menu; function buttons and indicator lights or soft keys represented on a screen of the interface. Nor does the admitted prior art figure 1 and Oravetz et al disclose the communication means is for communicating according to an internet type protocol.

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Alexander et al teaches a method for graphically displaying a menu for selection and viewing of load related parameters including function buttons and indicator lights (figure 4; 408, 410, 412, 402, 404, 420, 422); highlighting and soft keys (figure 6A-6F) and changing the background of information (figures 6A-6F) in a scrollable menu in order to allow a user to set trip parameters and to control display modes. Furthermore, Alexander et al teach, col. 19 line 8, using a communication protocol in order to send and receive data and information.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a man-machine interface with a display means for displaying a scrollable menu by highlighting information in the menu and using function buttons to enter or alter the information as well as for validating information or escaping to a different mode of operation as taught by Alexander et al in order to allow a user to visually display trip characteristics and to manipulate the parameters and to control display modes in a simple user friendly program environment to reduce user input error. Furthermore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a communication means for communicating according to an internet type protocol in order to communicate between devices that use internet type protocol in order to send and receive data and information accurately and efficiently.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claim 9 is allowed.

7. Claims 2 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Concerning claim 2, prior art fails to disclose or suggest, inter alia, the man machine interface wherein the display means for displaying setting parameters is for modifying the visual aspect of one portion of a curve by increasing the thickness of the portion.


Concerning claim 9, prior art fails to disclose or suggest, inter alia, a process for setting parameters of a trip device comprising displaying a list of protection curves; activate a validate button to select a curve whose parameters are to be set; displaying a portion of the selected curve and corresponding parameter with a frame; activating a shift button to change the portion of a curve and corresponding parameter.

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9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gary L. Laxton whose telephone number is (703) 305-7039. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Sherry can be reached on (703)308-1680. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-7724 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

 6/26/03
MICHAEL SHERRY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

GLL
June 20, 2003